

## Angie Lake

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**From:** Valerie Brinks <sandytoes15@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 26, 2012 9:01 AM  
**To:** Angie Lake  
**Subject:** to the Families, Children, and Elder Committee

In regards to:

SB 414, 415, 981

I am contacting you in regards to SB 414, 415, 981. I am in favor of autism insurance reform, but not these bills, but I DO support them if these changes are allowed. I have a son with autism that is 25yrs old, and he still needs therapy and it is still working for him and he continues to make progress. I have had to move to different counties and states to get my son what he needs, costing us thousands of dollars due to moving and job changes. No family should have to do that to keep help for their child. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

1) All individuals to be covered. These amended bills now stop at age 17 for services and will most likely be trimmed even further. So please voice that your child will be in need of services perhaps beyond at 17 and for their lifespan.

2.) To include all that has been deemed a medical necessity by a treating physician or medical professional.

3.) That allowing S981 to pass, and take tax payers money to provide an incentive to insurance companies to continue to do so, is in itself discriminatory to all of those that will continue to not have coverage, including those not covered by a final bill.

4.) These bills will allow individuals not licensed to practice intensive early intervention services without accountability and only with a certification. These bills require that to be covered to be medically proven, but those with BCBAs are unlicensed in that field specifically and are not medical practioners. Many, previous to the new certification requirements, have degrees in totally unrelated fields. This is other states has subjected children to inadequate services and no way to lodge complaints nor allow for tracking of those in the practice who are not providing appropriate intervention. I'm surprised this continues especially since folks are such purists on the practice. A barber in MI has to be licensed, dog groomers have to be licensed, massage therapists, etc. but not someone who provides 40 hours a week of intervention to a child? I hope that seems unusual to others as well

do, or do not....there is no try...  
-yoda